

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 26, 2001, at 9:30 a.m., in open session to consider the nominations of Edward C. Aldridge to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology; William J. Haynes II be general counsel of the Department of Defense; and Powell A. Moore, to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs, and in executive session thereafter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, April 26, 2001, at 9:30 a.m. on the nomination of Theodore W. Kassinger to be general counsel of the Department of Commerce.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, April 26, 2001, immediately following the nomination hearing, on S. 718—Amateur Sports Integrity Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 26, at 9:30 a.m. to conduct an oversight hearing. The committee will consider national energy policy with respect to fuel specifications and infrastructure constraints and their impacts on energy supply and price.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session on Thursday, April 26, 2001 to hear testimony on the Tax Code Complexity, New Hope for Fresh Solutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 26, 2001 at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing and a business meeting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a markup on Thursday, April 26, 2001, at 10 a.m. in Dirksen Building Room 226.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet on Thursday, April 26, 2001 from 9 a.m.—12 p.m. in Dirksen 562 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Communications, of the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, be authorized to meet on Thursday, April 26, 2001, at 2:30 p.m. on spamming.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Lands of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 26, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct an oversight hearing. The subcommittee will receive testimony on the energy implications of the Forest Service's Roadless Area Rulemaking.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWERS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Seapower of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 26, 2001, at 2 p.m., in open session to receive testimony regarding strategic airlift and sealift imperatives for the 21st century.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure be authorized to conduct a hearing to receive testimony on budget oversight on the Corps of Engineers program for FY02 on Thursday, April 26 at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Nicky Yuen on my staff be allowed floor privileges during the duration of the day.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONGRATULATING THE EAGLES OF BOSTON COLLEGE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 76, submitted earlier today by Senators KENNEDY and KERRY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 76) congratulating the Eagles of Boston College in Massachusetts for winning the 2001 National Collegiate Athletic Association Men's Ice Hockey championship.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 76) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The text of the resolution is located in today's RECORD under "Submitted Statements on Senate Resolutions.")

HONORING NEIL L. RUDENSTINE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from consideration of S. Res. 65 and the Senate then proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 65) Honoring Neil L. Rudenstine, President of Harvard University.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 65) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 65

Whereas Neil L. Rudenstine is retiring as the 26th President of Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, on June 30, 2001, after 10 years of service in the position;

Whereas Harvard University, founded in 1636, is the oldest university in the United States and 1 of the preeminent academic institutions in the world;

Whereas throughout the history of the United States, graduates of Harvard University have served the United States as leaders in public service, including 7 Presidents and many distinguished members of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives;

Whereas in recognition of his belief in, and Harvard University's continued commitment to, public service as a value of higher education, Neil L. Rudenstine worked to establish the Center for Public Leadership at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government to prepare individuals for public service and leadership in an ever-changing world;

Whereas in order to make a Harvard University education available to as many qualified young people as possible, during Neil L. Rudenstine's tenure, the University expanded its financial aid budget by \$8,300,000 to help students graduate with less debt;

Whereas Neil L. Rudenstine has made Harvard University a good neighbor in the community of Cambridge and greater Boston by launching a \$21,000,000 affordable housing program and by creating more than 700 jobs; and

Whereas Neil Rudenstine built an academic career of great distinction, including 2 bachelor's degrees, 1 from Princeton University and the other from Oxford University, a Rhodes Scholarship, a Harvard Ph.D. in English, recognition as a scholar and authority on Renaissance literature, and pre-eminent positions in higher education: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. HONORING NEIL L. RUDESTINE.

The Senate—

(1) expresses deep appreciation to President Neil L. Rudenstine of Harvard University for his contributions to higher education, for the spirit of public service that characterized his decade as Harvard University's President, for his many years of academic leadership at other universities, and for the grace and elegance that he brought to all he has done; and

(2) wishes him well in every future endeavor, anticipating the continuing benefit of his thoughtful expertise to American higher education.

SEC. 2. TRANSMITTAL.

The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to Neil L. Rudenstine.

FARMER BANKRUPTCY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 256, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 256) to extend for 11 additional months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States code is reenacted.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased that the Senate is finally turning its attention to retroactively renewing Chapter 12 of the Bankruptcy Code, which protects family farmers and helps them prevent foreclosures and forced auctions of their farms.

Unfortunately, many family farmers have been left in legal limbo in bankruptcy courts across the country since Chapter 12 of the Bankruptcy Code expired on July 1, 2000. Last year, the House of Representatives passed narrow legislation to retroactively renew Chapter 12, but that legislation died in the Senate. I worked to adopt the House-passed bill last year to renew

Chapter 12, along with a number of Democratic Senators, but the Senate Majority Leader never scheduled a vote on the bill.

This year, Representative NICK SMITH and Representative TAMMY BALDWIN introduced H.R. 256 to retroactively renew Chapter 12. Thanks to their bipartisan efforts the House passed the bill on February 28 by a vote of 408-2. I commend them for their leadership in securing House passage of this legislation.

Earlier this month, Representative SMITH and Representative BALDWIN wrote to me about trying to secure quick Senate passage of H.R. 256. I agreed that the Senate should act immediately to renew Chapter 12 of the Bankruptcy Code and send their legislation to the President for his signature into law. I am glad the Majority Leader is finally taking up our request to take up and pass H.R. 256.

During the debate earlier this year on comprehensive changes to the bankruptcy system, some proponents of the controversial reform bill claimed that it must be passed to restore Chapter 12 to the Bankruptcy Code. I hope today's action to pass a stand alone Chapter 12 bill will make it clear to all that the Senate does not have to pass a mammoth bankruptcy reform bill to provide family farmers with bankruptcy protection. I also hope today's action will put an end to any efforts to use Chapter 12 as leverage to enact controversial bankruptcy reform legislation. Our family farmers deserve better.

I strongly support H.R. 256 to retroactively give our family farmers bankruptcy protection if they fall on hard times. It is past time for Congress to retroactively renew Chapter 12 of the Bankruptcy Code to provide a safety net for our nation's family farmers.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 256) was read the third time and passed.

AUTHORIZING PRODUCTION OF RECORDS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 77, submitted earlier by myself and Senator DASCHLE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 77) to authorize the production of records by the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be

agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 77) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The text of the resolution is located in today's RECORD under "Submitted Statements on Senate Resolutions.")

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations reported by the Foreign Relations Committee today: Paula Dobriansky to be an Under Secretary of State; James Andrew Kelly to be an Assistant Secretary of State; Andrew Natsios to be Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations were considered and confirmed, as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

James Andrew Kelly, of Hawaii, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (East Asian and Pacific Affairs).

Paula J. Dobriansky, of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Global Affairs).

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Andrew S. Natsios, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I strongly support the nomination of Andrew Natsios. Andrew has ably served the State of Massachusetts as a Representative in the State House and as Chief Financial Officer for the State. He is an outstanding choice for the important post of Administrator for the Agency for International Development, and I'm confident he'll serve our country with great distinction.

The Agency plays an invaluable role for the United States, bringing the hope of a better life to those in need around the globe through humanitarian aid and development projects. Its Administrator must understand the challenges facing the Agency both internally and externally. He must be a strong and effective manager. He must be committed to improving the Agency as an institution and have the ability to advance its development mission effectively. I'm confident that Andrew possesses the skills to accomplish these goals and that he will enhance the agency's valuable work around the world.